membership NEWS

Vance Jones

In search of the Perfect Word

A powerful Word Processor, with many, many features of Page Layout... all in the "new and improved" *WordPerfect 2.0*. And when I say "improved," I mean it. Let's just say that WordPerfect 1.0x had been considered by many to be the *worst* word processing program ever conceived for the Mac. This new version has been completely re-written by people who know and love the Mac, and now it is vying for top honors. It's that good.

They've designed a brand new interface with an eye toward simplicity. Compact, easy-to-understand menus and streamlined dialog boxes give you access to all the *WordPerfect* features, with many exciting new additions. We'll all be able to see it **June 5** at the monthly meeting.

Creating and editing graphics for your documents can sometimes be a complicated process. No more. The *WordPerfect* tool palette and drawing commands now let you create and edit graphics **while in WordPerfect**. The tool palette contains all of the standard drawing tools, plus bezier curves, polygons, and a free rotation tool. And the color editor lets you blend, rainbow, and complement colors to create an almost unlimited number of additional colors.

The Speller and Thesaurus dialog

boxes are now moveable and sizeable. You can keep both utilities open at the same time, for more convenient editing. And here's a feature that I like: You can emphasize a quotation, comment, or summary with a text box. Highlight text inside a border and put it where it looks best in your document; the age of the instant "pull-quote" has arrived. Formatting is easy, since you can use almost all *WordPerfect* features inside a text box — including columns and graphics. When you size or move the box, surrounding text will automatically reformat. Or move graphics in your document and watch the text automatically reformat around them.

And for you "legal eagles" among us, *WordPerfect* offers you what *Word* doesn't: the ability to create authentic tables of authorities, automatic referencing, and

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numbering of both lines and paragraphs in your legal documents. The Redline and Strikeout features allow you to highlight certain portions of text for special consideration.

The powerful new macro editor takes the mystery out of macros and puts you in control. Not only can you create both simple and complex macros, you can see and edit them as you do it. Over 200 commands and 100 variables are at your disposal to make this the best macro editor yet for the Mac. Formatting is made easy for you with the *WordPerfect* Styles feature.

Then there's columns — perhaps the most poorly implemented feature of *Word*.

In addition to newspaper and parallel columns, you are now offered the choice of extended columns, to allow you to carry a parallel column across a page break. You can use borders with your columns to create tables, and can access Columns through the pop-up menus on the Ruler. Even (ta da) *uneven* column widths are supported... just click and drag the column to the width you want it to be. And *WordPerfect 2.0* can import *WordPerfect* files from Apple II, Amiga, Atari, IBM, NeXT, UNIX, VAX, and Data General machines, as well as Word files and other file formats. And we can see *all* this on **June 5**. Live and in color! Don't miss it.
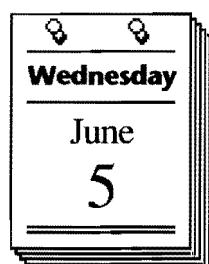
We offer our thanks to Robert Wright and Ken Gruberman for their very informative presentation on MultiMedia, CD-ROM's, and other subjects on the Mac at our May 1 meeting, in lieu of *Publish It! Easy*. Nicely done, guys.
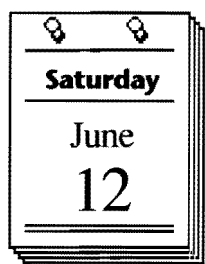
Although we didn't get to see *Publish It! Easy* at our May 1 meeting due to unforeseen circumstances, Timeworks was nice enough to fax us two copies of coupons for it as Grand Prizes for our RAFFLE. And the lucky winners were Milt Calig and Michael Harris... "comgradulations" guys! By the way, Grubes has them pencilled in again for our August 7 meeting; I hope they make it this time. (*I have it on personal authority from Nancy Winters herself, whom I saw May 19th in Anaheim, that she will indeed be here in August with lots of suprises and prizes. Things have a way of working out at MacValley, don't they? Ed.*) Other prizes, donors, and winners were: *Disk Accessory Plus* from Vertical Solutions (Larry Shaw); *Crystal Quest* from Casady & Green, Inc. (Mike Elliott); two copies of *AfterDark vers. 2 w/sound* from Berkeley Systems (Richard Nerone and Gary Shapiro).
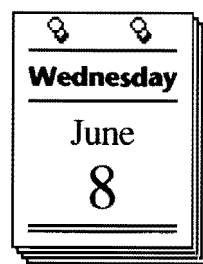
Wednesday June 5

General Meeting:
WordPerfect 2.0
Wilkinson Senior Center
8956 Vanalden,
Northridge
7:30 p.m.

Saturday June 12

MacAdemy:
Novice Class
11am – 1pm
Music, Sound, and 7.0
1pm – 3pm
FREE! Sign up at meeting

Wednesday June 8

MacValley Board of Directors Meeting:
7pm – 9:30pm
Golden Palm
240 E. Palm, Burbank
All members welcome

Tom Pitts

Spring has really hung him up the most

I've much to say and little space in which to say it. Look — this column was originally 10 pages long, but it has been "Gruber-ized" down a bit. Also, I've never been noted for my economy of words — I use only the most expensive words — so do this: read the following column aloud very rapidly, and clip your words sharply. At least that will afford the *illusion* of brevity.

Thank goodness summer is upon us! I don't know about you, for *me* it's been a terrible spring. First, my mousepad seized-up, then overheated and melted. I had to shell out a hundred bucks for a trackball. Then, in a furious paroxysm of malignant static cling, all of my socks were sucked from their dresser drawer and flung against my Mac screen, where they remain to this date. Even the socks I was wearing at the time were caught up in the dastardly vortex, and I hung upside down by my ankles from the Mac screen for almost a week before the rescue squad got me loose by using the Jaws of Life. Finally, my copy of *Disk Doubler* ran amuck and expanded all of my files instead of compressing them, causing my hard disk to explode. Data was sent all over the place. My favorite fonts were smeared across the walls in a near-obscene pattern of graffiti that only a native Angelino could recognize. I had to paint the entire room! My brand new copy of *WordPerfect* was shattered into so many pieces I had to re-name it *Letter Perfect*! Hey, don't tell me… I know. Nobody said this job was going to be easy.

That brings me to our first disk of the month for June. (You thought I'd never get to it, right?) This disk is, indeed, *Letter Perfect*, for it contains 15 Type 1 (ATM compatible) laser fonts. These are among the best shareware and freeware fonts I've seen since the release of ATM. A sampler of all the fonts on June's disk will be displayed at the meeting. The fonts on this disk are: *Andesite, Arctic, Benjamin, Davy's Dingbats, Davy's Other Dingbats, FrankTime* (a.k.a. *RUTall2Time), Luxembourg, Mazama, Mira, Nordic, Premium Thin* (an upgrade), *SchwarzWald, Silicon, Sydney,* and *Upsilon*. The two sets of dingbats are absolutely superb, must-have items! By the way, try the control-z combination in *Davy's Other Dingbats* for a surprise, hidden character. This disk contains approximately 1.1 Mb of material when expanded.

As I said, my job isn't easy — but *yours* will be with the second disk of the month. *Easy Job* contains 70 files in 15 folders totaling 1.5 Mb of material when expanded. The items on this disk are generally intended to facilitate your work on the Mac. You get:

Ashley Font — A feminine Type 1 laser font.

BiPlane DA 1.02 — If you want your spreadsheet in a DA, this is it.

BiPlane 2.0 — This is an excellent shareware spreadsheet, perfect for the beginner and power user alike. See the review by Mrs. Gruberman (yes, I mean Daphne) in last month's *Voice* for an outstanding overview. This is a low-calorie spread, too!

Caraway Font — Another Type 1 laser font, so nice you'll be caraway-ed away!

Gaudy Medieval Font — Yet another Type 1 laser font, this is showy and Germanic.

Harquil Font — A laser font based of the decorative style of display typefaces seen on the covers of most bodice-ripping romance novels. You know the kind of book I

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mean… Page 1: "John and Mary lay down on the bed." Page 250: "When John and Mary got up from the bed…"

Image 1.36 — Here is a really nice freeware, color graphics manipulation application. It does require a color monitor. From the National Institute of Health.

Monthly DA — This DA gives you a monthly appointments calendar that you can paste into other documents if you need.

OnlineTime DA 1.1b — Keep track of your AOL charges.

SAM 3.0 Virus Definitions — Users of Symantec AntiVirus for the Macintosh need these latest virus definitions; open with SAM. (or, play it again with SAM!)

Shorai Font 2.0 — Ah so. Honorable Juan. This Type 1 laser font is Japanese.

Snow! — An application to make you remember winter as the days heat up. (A similar application called "Rain" is missing from our PD Library. Please return it if you've seen it, assuming you'd recognize it of course.)

Star Trek: TNG Sound — A digitized sound of the "doorbell" on the Enterprise.

TailDragger — This is an INIT. Put it in your System Folder and reboot to make it active. It makes your arrow cursor point in the direction of mouse movement. Why anyone would like it is beyond me. (*They liked Mouse Odometer, didn't they? This is America, pal… we clamor for stupid inits, and the programmers oblige us! Ed.*)

Unicorn EPS — This is an EPS file of a drawing of a unicorn's head.

We aren't done yet! You now can experience your *own* software overload and melt down with all the goodies on *Melting Pot*. It is a scruffy mixture of the kind seen only on the streets of a city in a typical Steven Seagal movie. Look out for:

AOL Aid 1.1 — This upgrade of an INIT by Andrew Welch allows you to download in the background on AOL. Now, a click on the downloading monitor panel brings it to the front briefly so you can see how things are progressing.

AutoMenus 3.0 — An upgrade here, it drops your menu down for you, saving you

the mouse click.

BestBall — Here is a nice baseball simulation game, maybe the best around. Register as a user, and pay for your ticket — you'll get a full set of current teams. Sorry, but that means you'll also get the Dodgers and the Angels. No escaping reality here. I like *BestBall* — it's been bery, bery good to me. (*Is it true that Chico Esquela was a beta-tester for this game? Ed.*)

DeBNDLer 1.0 — Here's the author's description: "This application removes bundle information from all of your Adobe printer font files and changes the creator to that of DeBNDLer. Afterwards, rebuilding your desktop and opening folders with printer font files will be much faster." OK, if you say so. (Despite its name, it does not remove those little balls of fuzz from your cheap pullover sweaters.)

Desktop Checker 1.0b1 — Free from Salient Software (esteemed makers of *DiskDoubler*™), this application scans your desktop file and lets you know if it finds a potential problem.

DiskBasher 1.1 — This application puts your hard disk to the tests that MacUser magazine uses as its benchmarks.

DiskStatus 1.0.0 — Follow the memory status of your hard disk with this handy little application.

Elmer Fudd Sound — This is a digitized (1:2 ratio) sound of Fudd's laugh.

HP DeskWriter 2.1 — The latest version of the DeskWriter driver.

IconWrap 1.2 — By request, here is the INIT that causes your start-up icons to wrap up to the next line, ending screen clutter.

MegaCalculator DA — This calculator DA is fully configurable (do it in the privacy of your own home, please) to suit almost anyone's needs, at least for calculating — I mean, it won't cook or do dishes. Let's face it, even the Mac has restrictions. Like Clint Eastwood, as Dirty Harry, once said, "A Mac's gotta know its limitations." Figure them out with this DA.

OpenWide 2.0 — Say "Aah," and get a full look at file names in wider "Open File" dialog boxes. This is a bug fix and upgrade of an excellent utility (a cdev).

Oracle 1.0 — New from Andrew Welch, Oracle will display an insightful, esoteric philosophical statement at start-up. Philosophy is courtesy of the Synchronicity

folks. (*"Master... how is it that you can hear my hard disk crashing?" "Grasshopper... how is it that you do not?" Ed.*)

People Having Sex — We turn quickly from Oracle's Eastern esoterica to Western arcana; a digitized sound from a rap song that says "People are still having sex." Not a bad start-up sound. This is America in the 90's, people.

PopChar 1.5 — This is a bug fix and upgrade of a cdev that tells you all of the characters in a font and where to find them on the keyboard. Indispensable!!

Ragtime Calendar — Calendar template for those who use the nice program, *Ragtime*.

SCSI Probe 2.0.7 — Here is the latest version of the popular cdev that lets you examine and mount any currently unmounted SCSI devices. This is another one of those things that should be done only by consenting adults in the privacy of their own home.

SmartKeys 2.0 — This cdev, upgraded in this version, makes you conform to the proper rules of typesetting.

Speedometer 2.51 — Perform another set of benchmark exercises on your hardware.

Swatch 1.2 — This is probably the most sophisticated of the many shareware system heap adjustment programs, and it is really nice in color. Version 1.2 is a recent upgrade.

System 7 Compatibility List — This is a TEXT file, for those who really believe that we'll see System 7 in our lifetimes. (June?)

TypeSpes 1.0 — This application gives a nice printout of your fonts, but it doesn't do well with odd-sized fonts such as dingbats, Edith.

ZoomBar 2.0 — This cdev (upgraded in this version) allows you to shrink windows on your desktop to suit your space needs.

And on the *fourth* disk of the month... just kidding, folks. These three disks combined contain a total of over 4.1 Mb of material when expanded. If you run out of things to do after exploring these disks, take your family to the *Andy Williams Museum of Music* in Pacoima for a fun-filled, action-packed day. Lock your car! Good luck.

> ▮▮▮▮ **People Having Sex... a digitized sound from a rap song that says "People are still having sex." Not a bad start-up sound. This is America in the 90's, people.**

Welcome Wacom tablets
continued from page 1

had a cord that got in the way too often and too easily — just like my mouse.

For the next five years, I was resigned to use the mouse for my design work, with all its inherent difficulties. During that time, however, the Mac had evolved into a full-blown, graphic design, pre-press, super-postscript, page description platform supreme. Things are relatively the same over at Apple, though. As a company, Apple still pays little overt attention to this particular market. *They* may not seem to care much about this state of affairs, but let me assure you, many other companies do.

With all of the dramatic developments that have occurred in the Mac graphics field recently, nothing matches the excitement being generated by a new product from Wacom (pronounced *wah´-cum*). A product, made to perfection, that utilizes a digitizing tablet... and a stylus.

What sets this tablet apart from its predecessors? The tablet comes with a *cordless*, pen-like stylus, so there are no tangled wires. The stylus is ultra light because it contains no batteries. The tablets operate with great sensitivity, yet the cursor doesn't jitter on the screen when you hold the stylus motionless. They are very accurate, and not least of all, they have pressure sensitivity. This means that, as one bears down on the stylus, the change in pressure can be interpreted by software as a change in line thickness, density, color and more.

At MacWorld '91 in San Francisco, I saw these digitizing tablets in action, and this time I liked what I saw. The Wacom tablets come in 8 sizes, all the way from a 35 inch x 47 inch down to a little 6 inch x 9 inch. I made arrangements to evaluate a 12 x 12 version.

The first thing I learned about using a tablet was that bigger isn't necessarily better. Although the 6 x 9 is one of the more popular sizes, I ordered a 12 x 12 Model SD-420L thinking that the larger size would be more effective. I reasoned that, if I wanted to create an illustration, a 12-inch square tablet would best suit my purposes. Many artists, however, are using the 6 x 9 tablet. It is only a quarter of an inch thick and fits on your lap; I thought it would be too small. The 12 x 12 inch model is 2.5 inches off of the table at the top, and 1 inch thick at the bottom. It is also over 16 inches square, although the addressable area is 12

Wacom tablet
continued from page 1

inches square. I also learned that just because something is less expensive does not mean it is less appropriate. For my purposes, a smaller tablet would probably have been better.

I received a standard smooth-surface tablet, but Wacom also makes models that have different surface properties: an electrostatic surface which holds tracing paper in place without tape, and a transparent menu-panel surface which protects a customized menu underneath it.

What sets this tablet apart from its predecessors? The tablet comes with a *cordless*, pen-like stylus, so there are no tangled wires.

There are also four kinds of stylus to choose from. The one I tested is the Model SP-310 which has a soft feel and is identified with a red band. The blue-banded stylus, also pressure-sensitive, has a slightly firmer feel. The pressure-sensitivity of each stylus is user-definable. So much has been made of this aspect of the Wacom tablet that it's hard to imagine not wanting to use that function. For those whose needs require it, however, there are the other two stylus models — a soft-feel and firm-feel stylus without the pressure sensitivity and with optional pen-like color refills used for tracing. Every stylus rests upright in a weighted holder that fits either on the corner of the tablet or on your desk.

The real trick is to get used to double-clicking with a stylus. There is no "mouse button" on the SP-310. It feels like a ball-point pen except that the pen is upside down on the tablet surface — you draw using the part of a ball-point pen usually found at the top end: the button you click on to make the pen point extend or retract. Because of this, the way to double-click is by pushing down on the "retractor" button and releasing. The pen is so sensitive that, when double-clicking, it's hard to keep from merely moving small folders instead of opening them. Large icons and dialog boxes fare better. Fortunately, using the stylus and the mouse together is not incompatible, and it makes sense. My mouse and stylus are near each other and available for any appropriate task.

There are different ways to effectively suit the tablet to the user. One interesting approach is to map the tablet to a very small area, otherwise known as "defining a partial tablet." With this, a simple flick of the wrist will propel the cursor over a large distance. This technique is exceptionally useful when working with large monitors. For my money, it beats a trackball hands down. Better yet, it doesn't even have to be in contact with the surface. That's because the stylus was designed so that it could be held above the tablet without touching it. This feature is useful for digitizing images from sketches, or even from material up to about a quarter of an inch thick (the specs say 7mm).

The documentation is well illustrated and easy to understand. That's not to say the manual is perfect; there are passages that could use more elaboration. For example, the way to achieve "Function Key" mapping for the stylus is not clear. The documentation says "Clicking 'Function Key' instructs the driver to recognize the selected switch as the function key displayed. Click on the up or down arrow to change the function key. To define the function key action, use a commercial macro application." I love QuicKeys, my favorite macro application, but I'm not sure how to implement this feature. An example might help here.

Later, the manual makes a slightly innocuous statement about something that can be very important: telling the user "not run telecommunications software when the Wacom Tablet init is switched 'on.'" Conversely, if you have the init running and you need to use telecommunications software, you have to turn the tablet driver "off" in the Control Panel. If you forget to do either one of these procedures while attempting to run a telecomm program like *SmartCom*, the Mac will "lock up." This oversight is bothersome in an office situation, where people may need to run a modem and utilize the serial port for the Wacom tablet at the same time. You are required to turn the driver off *before* you launch the telecommunications software. In my tests I tried using a serial port switching device, but it *still* would not co-exist with my modem.

Although a major pain, this problem and the awkwardness of double-clicking are

SILHOUETTE MADE IN THE SHADE   I banged this out in Pressure Paint which is like MacPaint with the added ability of varying line weight and line density. Here I've explored the variation in line weight capability.

JUST A GUY Using Oasis, I limited my palette to a monochrome gray and created a few different sized "pencils" to work with. Although my masterpiece is not anatomically correct (according to Margie, my Mrs. Art Director who is an excellent illustrator in her own right), the drawing nevertheless shows the extraordinary handling that can be achieved with the Wacom tablet and Oasis.

MARTY SAFIR

clutter and too many jumbled, hard-to-read pages! With Oasis, there's a danger that the user may feel compelled to mix too many styles in their artwork, but that's not the fault of the software! I believe it is important to take a coherent approach and build a "framework" for your art, if you will. In the study "Just a Guy," I limited myself to a monochrome palette and created a few different sized "pencils" to work with.

The Wacom tablet and Oasis work so well together that Time Arts has decided to bundle both products together in the "Oasis/ Wacom Image Creation Kit." This includes Oasis, of course, and a 6 x 9 inch standard Wacom tablet with stylus. It retails for $1,195. When you consider the separate list prices of $795 for Oasis and $695 for the 6 x 9 Wacom, you will realize that it's a bargain. Street price should make it a lot less.

Of course, Wacom tablets also work with *any* software, because, in effect, they take the place of the mouse. However, there are many programs that now take advantage of the pressure-sensitivity aspect, including: *ColorStudio*, *PhotoShop*, *PixelPaint Professional* and *Studio 32*. Also working well under pressure are *Digital Darkroom*, *SuperPaint*, *Easy Color Paint*, and *UltraPaint*, with more coming.

Clearly, the Wacom tablet is a powerful piece of hardware that stands in a class by itself. It is very rugged (I dropped my pen a few times and it's still working fine) and is fairly priced. If you've been waiting to buy a tablet with a natural feel, this is the one. You can finally use that "bar of soap" where it belongs: in the shower.

Wacom Cordless DigitizingTablet
SD-420L; 12 x 12; $995
SD-510C; 6 x 9; $695
Manufactured by: Wacom, Inc., West 115 Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652, (201) 265-4226
Requires: Mac Plus or better
Oasis 1.0
List Price: $795.00
Published by: Time Arts 1425 Corporate Center Parkway, Santa Rosa, CA 95407 (707) 576-7722
Requires: Mac LC or better; 5MB RAM; 640 x 480 resolution monitor; 32-bit Quickdraw. Recommended in addition to system requirements: 19 inch monitor and 8, 24 or 32-bit video display card. 8 mb RAM wouldn't hurt, nor would an accellerated IIfx or IIci computer. Of course, it's best with a pressure sensitive tablet and stylus.
Copy protection: none

not reason enough to reject the Wacom tablet. That's because they are outweighed by the sheer joy that comes from using it for creating artwork.

All Wacom tablets come with a unique and revealing little application called *Pressure Paint*. This is like *MacPaint*, but with the added ability to vary line density and line weight. It's fun for getting an immediate demonstration of the pressure-sensitive function, but in my estimation, it's not for serious work. For that, there is *Oasis*.

Oasis was created by another company, Time Arts, and delivers on the promise the Wacom tablet offers. It is the perfect software to accompany the

hardware, since it was developed from the very start with the idea of using it with a pressure-sensitive tablet, to provide "traditional art techniques for computer artists." By selecting various items from Oasis' Attributes menu, along with size and density settings, you can simulate oil paint, acrylics, water color, charcoal, pencil, pastel, chalk and more. You can also vary dry-out speed and wetness of the brush — this makes it possible to create a full range of tools for creating artwork.

Using Oasis reminds me of the early days of desktop publishing, when we had a bazillion fonts in our menu *and* on our documents. Too much

One interesting approach is to map the tablet to a very small area.... With this, a simple flick of the wrist will propel the cursor over a large distance.

MacValley has an opportunity to help the people of Latvia

And the name of the song is the name of the dream

By Lisa Kiyle

There's a song in the dust of a
country road, on the wind it
comes to call
And it sings in the farms and the
factory towns and where you'd
think there'd be no song at all.
And the words are the words that our
fathers heard as they whistled
down the years
And the name of the song is the name
of the dream and it's music to our
ears...

These lyrics, from the song "America, the Dream Goes On," remind all of us that freedom is something to be cherished and never, never to be taken for granted. As we delight in our freedom as Americans, we also long to see others achieve it. Especially those who have fought for freedom for so many years.

Now we, as Macintosh enthusiasts, have an opportunity to do something for those that yearn for the freedoms we enjoy. For those who now struggle to regain their independence and dignity. What does the Macintosh have to do with such fundamental concepts and world events? Read on... Ed.

I have little to offer other than an idea and an appeal. I am an artist after all, not a writer or public speaker, so please forgive my awkwardness.

This is about family, about love, about loss, and about my belief in a machine's power... and the power we hold over our future.

You see, there is this tiny spot on our planet, home to three even tinier countries: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Together, they make up the Baltic states. Perhaps this isn't news to you, or perhaps you might remember bits and pieces of recent news events there. Terms and phrases come to mind: "Drive for Independence," "Popular Front," "Crackdown." Remote, unreal. But we in America, and in MacValley, have a real opportunity to do something very important for some real people who are struggling with some real life stuff.

My mother, her sisters and her parents, all Latvians, fled from Stalin's army toward the end of WWII... the army that brought with it the domination and rule of far-off Moscow. They fled in much the same way the Kurds are now fleeing from Hussein's army. They subsequently spent five years at a Displaced Persons camp in Germany before finally arriving in the United States. They had one suitcase apiece and $5.00 between them. I am not the person, nor is this the place, to go further into this story or the similar stories of so many other people. All I can say is: these were, and are, people who had a home, a history, a language, a culture — and the loss, the destruction, the pain remains profound to this day. It is beyond my imagination and ability to fully understand what all of this meant.

This, however, is my connection. This is where the opportunity stems. As an adult, my aunt Liga went back to Latvia several times, often staying for months. A Macintosh user herself, she would lug Macs and related items on each journey. She knew how desperately her fellow countrymen needed them in order to further propagate the freedom movement that had finally re-emerged. She would leave the equipment for her fellow Latvian Mac users whenever she returned to the U. S.

As an adult, my Aunt Liga went back to Latvia several times, often staying for months. A Macintosh user herself, she would lug Macs and related items on each journey.

Liga left for her last trip on March 4th. Three weeks later, she died in her sleep. She had been working with the hospital, the university, the Latvian government, and the Freedom Organizations. She gave so much of herself to a cause she had no choice but to believe in.

Before Liga left on that last trip, we had talked about Macs, about what system should she take over there this time, what

else might be useful. As we talked, I became more and more excited; at last, something I could do! I'm a confirmed Mac enthusiast myself... I love these machines! (I'm sure you know what I mean). I also believe in One Planet, in the Future, and I've always felt that those who designed these machines must have believed in that too. Let's face it, the Macintosh is almost synonymous with the concept of personal freedom. Hey, I could send stuff too!

And while I'm just a Mac Baby, I realized that I had access to this great resource: all of you at MacValley. In any case, we talked, and later she mentioned the idea to the Latvian Mac-faithful.

Liga's oldest, my cousin Karlis Streips, works for the American Latvian Association in Washington D.C. There, direct telex communication is possible with Latvia. Karlis received a telex on March 6th, and I will simply repeat (exactly as received) a portion of the letter he wrote me that same day.

...*"the Mac people in Latvia said that of course they would love to have some of the things which you mentioned when we talked in Chicago. [Vilnis] said that there are currently about 100 Macs in Latvia — about ten Mac II's, 20 classics, 25 SE's, and the rest Mac Plus. Some have hard disks (maximum 20-30MB), and others have auxiliary drives. The largest use for Macs in Latvia is in publishing, but some people use them for database and spreadsheets, as well. The largest Mac users in Latvia are the people who publish the newspaper "Diena," as they use Macs to lay out their paper and several others as well. (As you know, the Latvian publishing house was overrun by troops in January, and most of the newspapers there were kicked out of their offices; accordingly, it's been catch-as-catch-can for most of the publishers, and the Macs have been a real godsend.) The government also makes extensive use of Macs. I know that, because I spent many, many hours putting together campaign materials on a Mac back when there were parliamentary elections last year. The most often used printers are the GCC business laser writer and the NEC SilentWriter. He says the most popular programs are Microsoft Word 4.0, Aldus PageMaker 3.2, Aldus Free Hand 2.1,*

QuarkXPress 2.1, Cricket Graph (?— the telex was garbled there), MacDraw II 1.1, and Wingz 1.1

Vilnis said that it would be very, very useful to receive a set of MacWorld and MacUser magazines covering the last two or three years. He said that "Latvia's Mac users would pass these magazines from hand to hand and read every line." He also wanted to know whether a second edition of the Mac Bible might be available, along with any other publications. He also thinks it would be nice to receive public-domain pro-grams, desk accessories, and fonts.

If you really are able to bring this matter up with the club you belong to, we would be very, very appreciative. The American Latvian Association will gladly help arrange for trans-portation of things to Latvia (that's a big pain in the neck, as you can probably imagine) ..."

It makes you think, doesn't it? Are you interested?

In addition to the kinds of things already mentioned, I'm seeking ideas and imagination. That's because the first thing that probably popped into your mind imme-diately after reading the above material, the obvious avenue for help, has already been tried with no real success. Karlis did contact the Community Affairs and Corporate Grants divi-sions of Apple directly with a request for grant information in accor-dance with Apple's Corporate Giving program. You'll just love their reply, again quoted here exactly:

"Unfortunately, it is very difficult for us to make grants at this points [sic] to the USSR. We are just in the earliest stages of doing business there, and until there is an infrastructure in place and Apple personnel can set priorities for dona-tions, we cannot support projects such as the one you describe. I will, however, keep your letter on file for consideration when the time is 'ripe.' Thank you for thinking of Apple,

and good luck with your project. Sincerely, Fred Silverman, Manager, Corporate Grants." So much for the President's vaunted "thousand points of light." I wonder what Jobs and Wozniak would think about this attitude? *(I've seen Apple literally give several Macs to a movie production, to keep, as long as those Macs are prominently featured on the screen! Ed.)*

So now, it's up to us. Our Mr. Gruberman suggested we publish this letter on America Online and in the MacValley Voice. My aunt Gundy suggested we upload this story to university networks. Who knows where all this could lead! As I've said, I'm an artist. I can imagine what other artists doing publications might find benefi-cial, but what the hell do I know about databases or spreadsheets! How about you? We can assume there are all levels of users out there. I don't know UNIX from pick-up sticks. How about you?

My goal is to get the good Mac-people of Latvia anything I can: hardware, soft-ware, literature... anything. And to keep it coming. I'm willing to collect the things you might like to send them at our monthly MacValley meetings, and get them to Karlis in Washington who will get them to the Mac-Latvians. I must note here that quantity is not the point, rather quality and useful-ness. Remember that, eventually, someone will be engaging his or her muscle-power lugging our contributions to Latvia, and 64 copies of an August 1978 computer maga-zine won't really be useful to anyone. If there are indeed inter-ested people out there, perhaps you can suggest ideas to help coordinate these efforts.

Karlis said he'd be delighted to talk to anybody who is inter-ested, and can be reached during business hours at his Washing-ton, D. C. office: (301) 340-1914 EDT. I can be reached after regular business hours at my home in Saugus, California: (805) 296-0104, or at (805) 253-4334.

We *can* make a difference — each one of us! To the FUTURE!

Editors Postscript: I have already for-warded a copy of this article to the President of Computer Users for Social Responsibility, via America Online. It has begun!

> ███████ ...there are currently about 100 Macs in Latvia.... The largest Mac users in Latvia are the people who publish the newspaper "Diena," as they use Macs to lay out their paper and several others as well.

> ███████ ...the Latvian publishing house was overrun by troops in January, and most of the newspapers there were kicked out of their offices....For most of the publishers...the Macs have been a real godsend.

S N I P P E T S
f r o m a r o u n d
t h e w o r l d
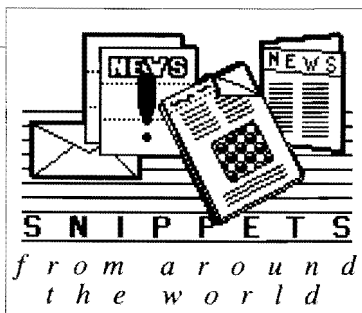
Tom Casacky

More news from the Fruit of the Month Club

Now that **System 7** has your attention, what else does Mother Apple have in store for you this year? In July, two new LaserWriters; the higher priced of the two will support gray scale output. In August, a new gray-scale scanner and accompanying software. In October, two new '040 Macs, the Tower and a desktop model. And perhaps a Classic with the '030 processor. And afterwards, three new portables... **Acius** will deliver version 2.2 of **4th Dimension** soon. Thanks to the way the application is constructed, it will be the first database to utilize some of Apple's more sophisticated programming features, both in System 7 and beyond. The upgrade will cost $50... I wouldn't be surprised if **Informix** throws in the towel in the spreadsheet wars. Now that they have sold **Wingz'** code to **Claris**, would anyone be surprised if the future **Wingz 2** is really one and the same as Claris' **Resolve**? You shouldn't be... *MacWEEK* recently noted what many have suspected, namely that the **IIfx** is not as fast as it seems. The custom SCSI direct memory access transfer chip is only used by the A/UX operating system; thus Systems 6 and 7 perform better on the **IIci** than on the IIfx. Also, a new serial input/output scheme runs afoul of most of the programs that it was designed to speed up. Finally, the IIfx NuBus actually transfers data more slowly than the IIci; processor-and disk-intensive applications will run fastest on an acceler-

ated IIci... Those of you who have faithfully stuck with **MacWrite** all these years will finally get your reward. **MacWrite Pro** is a completely new program (with the familiar interface and the same retail price: $250) that incorporates page layout features, such as text wrap, multiple columns, objects that can be moved and scaled, an "open" tool palette to which new functions can be added, style sheets, tables and text and sound annotation. Outlining and indexing are still missing, but Claris (once they work the bugs out) should have another high-end contender to match against **Nisus**, **WordPerfect** and **Word** (*and the first word processor to fully exploit the hidden powers of System 7, natch! Ed.*)... With the addition of the $200 **Apple IIe card**, the LC can now run over 90% (e.g., 10,000) of all existing IIe applications... If you have a Classic, **Mobius** wants to sell you their **030 Display System.** For about $1000, you get an accelerator card which will boost performance into IIsi/IIci country, along with a full page monochrome monitor; another $200 will buy you s two-page display instead. The catch? The card lacks a memory management unit (you'll want this for System 7 and beyond) and a math co-processor; they'll cost about $130 each... Meridian's **GRIPS 2 CD-ROM** ($50) contains a collection of color photos, satellite photos, maps, radar images and multi-spectral scanner images made by atmospheric, geologic and oceanographic government agencies. The disc also contains software tools to display and analyze the images... **ProfitAbility Professional** 1.3 ($350) is a complex, fully customizable small business accounting system (general ledger, accounts payable and receivable, payroll, time and materials, disbursements, mail merge form letters, etc.) based on **HyperCard 2.0**... Need to learn a language? **Picture It!** ($90) offers a dictionary (in Spanish, French, German or Italian) of over 1000 words, along with a detailed picture of each and its audio pronunciation; words and pictures can be added. Also available is **VocabuLearn/ce 2.0** ($60), a

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▓▓▓▓ **If you've received the upgrade to PageMaker 4.01 and you're having trouble with it, call Aldus and have them send you a new copy...**

vocabulary and pronunciation tutorial with three hours of sounds on audio cassettes and customizable, interactive **HyperCard** 2.0 stacks... **FastPitch** is a $239 multimedia black and white presentation program that incorporates sound, animation, video, text and graphics and runs off **HyperCard** 1.2.2 or 1.2.5 (*not* 2.0)... **MacPalette II** is a $69 printer driver that expands the color capabilities of the **ImageWriter II** to 250,000 colors; it also allows scaling from 10 to 1000 percent. It works with most applications and is ATM-compatible... If you're the lucky designer who has both **FreeHand** and **Illustrator**, **Altsys** will make you a little happier. They are about to release a $99 utility that allows FreeHand 3 drawings to be exported to Illustrator 3; thus you can use the best features of each to create a single illustration... **Radius** has brought their **Full-Page Display** ($900) back from the "discontinued" heap, perhaps sensing that there are many Classic and SE owners who can't afford (or don't need) bigger monitors (or the Pivot). Boards for the Display range from $300 to $800; the on-board video of the IIsi and IIci will drive it without a card... ALSoft has shipped **DiskExpress 2.07**, a $10 upgrade that makes the disk optimizing program fully System 7-compatible... If you've received the upgrade to **PageMaker 4.01** and you're having trouble with it, call **Aldus** and have them send you a new copy... **Infini-D** is a $900 modeling, rendering and animation program that lets you create and animate photo-realistic 3-D images. It boasts five rendering modes and more than 250 customizable 3-D surfaces and textures; the user can import 2-D PICT images, wrap them around objects and light them in any way. Animation is done with a

time sequencer (rather than a frame-based approach), and multiple cameras allow users to look at animations from more than one view... *MacWEEK's* annual Top 200 listing reveals that the **University of Texas at Austin** is America's top Mac site, with 12,500 machines, followed by the **University of Michigan** with 12,050. **USC** is tops in Southern California with 1,850. The top commercial site is **Lockheed Missiles and Space** in Sunnyvale with 6,200. Local leaders are **Hughes** Ground Systems in Fullerton (4,025), **McDonnell Douglas** in Huntington Beach (3,750), **Hughes** Data Systems in El Segundo (2,550) and **JPL** in Pasadena (2,500)... If you have a **vintage-1987 Mac II** with its original ROMs, hurry on down to your Apple dealer and insist on the free upgrade to newer ROMs — unless you thrive on incompatibility... The revised version 3.7 of **DiskDoubler** is faster, creates smaller files and can create self-extracting archives; upgrade price is $15. Both this and **StuffIt Deluxe 3.0** are System 7-compatible. You probably won't care about either once you've played with **SuperDisk!** This $89 cdev reduces files by half (on average), does it faster than any of its competitors, offers password protection, self-extracting archives and does not alter icons or other file information. Any file or folder with ".s" added to its name is automatically compressed; double-clicking decompresses. We like it!... **Dubl-Clik Software's** 10-volume, 7000-image **Wet Paint** bit-mapped clip art collection, total price $900, can now be had on one CD-ROM for $350... If you're a developer or hacker who has had your fill of **ResEdit** for one reason or many, you might want to have a look at **Resourcerer.** We've been playing with this sophisticated resource editor for a couple of months and agree that it is "easier, more powerful and more intuitive than ResEdit." It works only on copies of files and never uses Apple's private data structures. Cost is $256, which includes an exhaustive 420-page manual... **Acta Advantage 7.0** (quite a jump from the current version 3.0), the newest incarnation of the popular outliner, supports collapsible, hierarchical outlines

with multi-font text and graphics, along with System 7's publish and subscribe features and sound input. Acta (still both a program and a DA) also has a phone dialer and a word count feature. The upgrade cost is $30... **Microtek** has released two 600 dpi scanners that are priced below their 300 dpi models. The 24-bit **600ZS** ($2200) scans a full-page color image in less than three minutes; it is bundled with Adobe PhotoShop. The **600GS** ($1700) scans 256 levels of gray... **Enhance 2.0** ($375) is a long-awaited upgrade to a powerful 8-bit gray-scale image editing program. This one offers support for virtual memory, an editable tool palette and customizable tools, adjustable anti-aliasing and better printing options. The upgrade costs $50... Programmers will be interested in *System 7 Revealed*, a $23 Addison-Wesley book by Anthony Meadow that succinctly refines the information contained in about 2,500 pages of Apple technical notes and manuals. You will definitely be interested in **TMON Professional**, the new version of the invaluable debugging utility that works with any program for any Mac system, including 7. Upgrades are $100; retail is $250... If you're shopping for a printer right now, you may have noticed the high percentage of new units that are powered by Reduced Instruction Set Computing (**RISC**) microprocessors. **Microtek, Epson, NewGen, NEC, Dataproducts, Lasermaster, QMS** and **HP** have all joined the parade. The reason is simple: These printers are much, much faster than units using traditional processors. Why, then, is Apple set to release new LaserWriters with comparatively slow '030 processors, for higher prices than any of the above? Why indeed... If you're a registered owner of **On Cue**, Now Software will sell

▓▓▓▓▓ **For those of you in MacValley's Ultimate Toy Division, Mitsubishi will, for $10K, sell you their newest monitor: the XC-3725C, a 37-inch color beast that offers 1280 x 1024 pixel resolution...**

▓▓▓▓▓ **Microtek has released two 600 dpi scanners that are priced below their 300 dpi models. The 24-bit 600ZS ($2200) scans a full-page color image in less than three minutes; it is bundled with Adobe PhotoShop. The 600GS ($1700) scans 256 levels of gray...**

you the very useful **Now Utilities 2.0** (retail $129) for just $59 — until June 15... Also in the one-upsmanship derby is Timeworks' *Publish•It Easy!* As mentioned at last month's meeting, if you send in just a *photocopy* of the front cover from either the QuarkXPress or PageMaker manuals, you can get this incredibly well-written, feature packed page layout program for only $99.00... If you're agonizing over the decision to purchase either **Illustrator** or **FreeHand** (never mind **MacDraw**; we're talking serious stuff here), you might want to wait a couple of months and have a look at **Canvas 3.0**; you won't be sorry... Through the end of June, **NEC** will sell you their **Intersect CDR-36** portable CD-ROM reader and version 2.0 of **Type Gallery**, a CD-ROM disc with the entire Adobe Type 1 library (three of your choice are unlocked; the rest are encoded for your later purchase), for $499... **ON Technology** has announced **Instant Update**, an application that lets users on a network simultaneously revise a shared document that may contain text, graphics and tables. The fully System 7-compatible program ($1000 for five users) uses Claris XTND filters to import and export many types of documents; each user has a word processing and table-editing application on his/her computer, while a document server runs in the background on all networked Macs... What is competition worth these days? Apple's new **StyleWriter** (attractive and slow) was on the market a month when HP dropped the price of their **DeskWriter** (ugly and quick) by over 25% (or $270)... For those of you in MacValley's Ultimate Toy Division, **Mitsubishi** will, for $10K, sell you their newest monitor: the **XC-3725C**, a 37-inch color beast that offers 1280 x 1024 pixel resolution... Finally this month, a product whose time has come. Telecommunications devotees who spend their lives attached to various Fidonet BBS systems have longed for a product like **Copernicus**, a $40 application that automates everything, does it quickly and seamlessly, and puts a complete Mac interface on the whole business. If you're a BBS person, you need to know about this gem. Contact Software Design, PO Box 12016, Des Moines, IA 50312-2016.
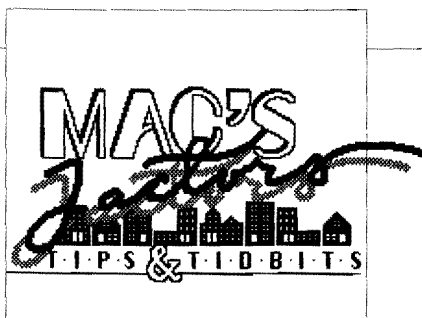
Larry Hansen

Systems may come and go, but a tidbit is forever

Want to move up in the world?

Many Mac users don't know this important tip: To move up in the hierarchy of folders toward and to the hard disk or floppy itself, click the little icon next to the disk name on the right hand side of Open and Save dialog boxes. This is fast and easy, so try it several times right away to lock this tip into your everyday operating procedure. I NEVER click on the folder name box on the left side just above the list of contents. NEVER. Too Slow! — April 91 *Mouse Droppings*

The color of money

Note that if your Apple 13" color monitor needs repairs, $400 is not uncommon. AppleCare for the monitor is $60 a year. You may want to give this some thought. — David Ramsey in *MacWEEK*

Reverting to a primitive state

You should already know that TIFF images passed through the Clipboard and/or Scrapbook lose their 300 dpi look and revert to 72dpi. — April 91 *Mouse Droppings*

Making some points

In SuperPaint 2.0, if you are in the Draw mode and have chosen a point size in the text tool, but find that when you actually type the letters they are a smidgen too small or too large, just select the text with the pointer tool and use Command-Shift < (to make it smaller by one point) or Command-Shift > to make it bigger by one point. This works with multiple selections, and they don't even have to be the same type size to begin with! This also works in Word 4.0, but not by one-point increments. Word takes the selected text to the next largest/smallest typical, built-in point size. — March 91 *Club Mac of Monterey JOURNAL*

A trip to the sidebar

If you wish to use more than one style of outline labels in FullWrite, stick the outline in the sidebar (only if it's one page or less). — March 91 *Mad Mac News*

Military intelligence gets one right!

The GAO has approved the purchase of up to 80,000 Mac II family computers by the Air Force for their command and control systems. Of course, you know who would have sold the Air Force 80,000 computers if GAO had decided *against* Apple, don't you? — May 91 *Mouse Droppings*

Oh what a beautiful scanning, oh what a beautiful day

You can scan grayscale images at 75 or 150 dpi for use in desktop publishing applications. You don't need to scan at higher resolutions unless you will be increasing the size of the image in the DTP application. Usually 75 dpi will do. If you are outputting to a 1270 or 2540 imagesetter, then try 150 dpi. — May 91 *Mouse Droppings*

Do you Excel in mistakes?

Do you ever make a mistake when filling in a bunch of cells in Excel? When I blacken an area in Excel to fill in a bunch of cells, by using the tab key to go to the next cell, I get frustrated when I discover a mistake and want to go backwards a cell or two. Until the other day, I would use the mouse, go back, make my correction, then have to re-blacken the desired cells and go forward again. I discovered (all by myself when foolishly pressing a wrong key) that you can go backwards without destroying the blacking by pressing SHIFT-TAB. This is a big help if you make as many mistakes as I do. Of course, the cells don't have to be blackened to do this. In fact, you can navigate over the whole spreadsheet forward and backward by using TAB or SHIFT-TAB and up and down by using RETURN or SHIFT-RETURN. I've had Excel for 4 years and just now came across the above. (*Where has this guy been? Everyone knows this... right? Ed.*) — March 91 *SMUG Newsletter*

> **...you can navigate over the whole [Excel] spreadsheet forward and backward by using TAB or SHIFT-TAB and up and down by using RETURN or SHIFT-RETURN.**

> **Note that if your Apple 13" color monitor needs repairs, $400 is not uncommon. AppleCare for the monitor is $60 a year.**

Son of "More things I learned the hard way"

- Don't do self-installations of expensive computer parts without testing them out thoroughly right away. When I saved myself $85 by putting in my FDHD myself, I didn't have any high density disks, but I did have a regular IBM disk. It worked, an 800K Mac disk worked; I was happy. Several months later I inserted a HD disk for the first time; this time I was not happy. Computer Factory waived the labor charge, but I was stuck for the FDHD ROM cost (more than twice the 85 bucks I saved).
- Don't let your PageMaker documents get too big on you. Jeanne was doing one last little thing before Saving As, when the file swelled up and made her Mac pass out. When it came to, PageMaker couldn't open it — it was too big. (We used Public Folder to get to my machine, which, with more memory, could open it. Failing that, I guess we could have segmented the file with Stuffit and put it on disks and taken it to somebody else's Mac.)
- Don't let your printer's paper sit out in the open in the humid months. It absorbs moisture. Damp paper doesn't take an image too well. We were printing the final round of a catalog with Helvetica Black headlines, and the blacks were faded. We ran out and bought a new toner cartridge, and when that didn't help we figured out to buy a new ream of paper. That worked. — March 91 *Princeton Macintosh Users' Group Newsletter*

X marks the spot

How do you number pages automatically in *Persuasion*? Go to the master slide and select from Master Menu "Add Page number..." This will place a page number hold "xx" on the page. Put it wherever you want it. — April 91 *Mouse Tales*

Reach out and push someone... right off the line

If you have Call Waiting on your phone line, it can really present a problem if your modem shares the line with your telephone. It can throw you off bulletin boards, and worst of all, if you are downloading a program, it will stop the transfer if a call comes in. To disable Call Waiting, place *70 before the number you are going to dial. This, of course, also works if you don't want your telephone call interrupted. — May 91 *appleJAC Digest*

Disk space... the final frontier

Macintosh portables will probably be on all future manned U.S. space flights. It performed well on the Discovery this past October. A program called MacSPOC was one application used. Hah! NASA can't even spell SPOCK right! — March 91 *Mouse Droppings*

Ludwig van Bug-thoven

MusicProse 2.0 started shipping last December and, while it is a "sound" advancement, it does seem to be packed with a few "fretful" bugs. The other night after I completed a ditty, the program got hungry and gobbled up 90% of my painstakingly inserted slurs. I resorted to the drastic step of total INIT removal (giving me withdrawal pains) and saving the file after each slur creation. A quick call to the tech support confirmed my troubles — the program *does* feast on slurs. Tech support apologized and promised to fix its hunger in a January bug release. If it is

out then, (*it is... with one more new version after that! Ed.*) then get it and put that bug on a diet! — Dec. 90 *Mad Mac News*

Return of the Son of "PageMaker Tips"

- If you have a loaded icon (loaded with text or graphic or the Scrapbook) that you decide not to place, simply click on the pointer tool in the Toolbox and it will be absorbed.
- Edit rotated text by selecting it with the pointer tool and pressing Command-E to open its story window. Or just triple-click on it with the pointer tool.
- In 4.0, there is no longer a button to choose the Apple driver in the Print dialog box. To automatically switch to the Apple driver, hold down the Option key while choosing Print. . . from the File menu. (Actually, this also works in 3.x as a short cut.) You'll get the standard Apple dialogs. — Dec. 90 *Macintalk*

### Indiana Jones and the Last Upgrade

Here's a hint for all you Pool of Radiance players out there. I don't know much about this game, but I think someone should be doing a better job at spell-checking the place names! As to Mr. Conty, it's obvious he's got way too much free time! Ed.

Nicklas Ungman writes: "I've been to Diogenes the Silverdragon, and he told me to 'go far east to find a silver bottle in a large kobold komplex,' but I can't find any komplex..." The Kobold Cave (or caves) are due east from the nomad camp, which is itself (almost) due east from the Pyramid, and at the northernmost tip of the forest. As to where the bottle is, I'll leave that for you to find out. — Enrique Conty, March 91 *Mad Mac News*

Macintosh portables will probably be on all future manned U.S. space flights. It performed well on the Discovery this past October.

How do you number pages automatically in *Persuasion*? Go to the master slide and select from Master Menu "Add Page number..." This will place a page number hold "xx" on the page. Put it wherever you want it.
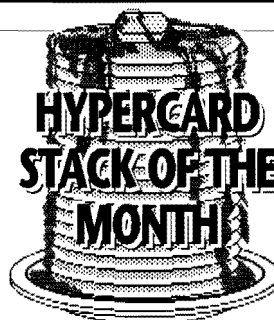
Robert Wright

Just the stacks facts, ma'm

This month's Stacks

There is never enough clip art available. The more you have, the more you want. At the HyperCard division of MacValley, we know this fact, and have once again done our best to remedy the situation. This month's Stack of the Month gives you an entire disk *filled* with clip art. Too many things to list here, but rest assured there's one each of just about everything you can think of. (*If there were two of each thing you could think of, we could've called this "Noah's ArkStack." Ed.*)

Are we there yet?

Over at the HyperGroup, we are still sweating bullets awaiting the release of HyperCard 2.1. The new program plays a critical part in System 7 (see the President's column for more details). Upgrades are free to users who have purchased any version from Claris, and will also come with the new System Software when you buy it in the stores.

Our next meeting will be held at the home of:

Jim Conant
631 E. Andover Drive
Burbank, CA
Cross Street is Glenoaks, close to McCambridge Park (when Andover forks, bear left)

Our next meeting is Wednesday, June 26 at 7:30. HyperGroup meets the fourth Wednesday of every month. HyperGroup is a friendly gathering of HyperCard enthusiasts who help each other with problems, swap stacks and generally have a good time. When System 7 finally does get here, Hyper-Group will definitely have its hands full!

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Robert Wright

The time has come, the walrus said, to talk of many things

It's a question that I hear with increasing frequency. "Should I change over to System 7?" The release of Apple's long-awaited major system software upgrade is here. Will your life be a heaven of new features and expanded horizons, or a hell of system crashes and corrupted documents? As the first kid on MacValley's block to load the thing up, I am prepared to tell the tale.

It's 7-Up time

First, I will wax enthusiastic and tell you some of things I like about System 7.

Balloon Help: When balloon help is on, little cartoon-style captions, or "balloons," pop up when you pass the pointer over menus, buttons or other parts of a program. This creates a program that explains itself as you move the mouse around the screen.

One damn good-looking operating system: System 7 looks great! Color icons and visually re-worked windows have given the Mac a new and upgraded look.

IAC (Interapplication Communications): Say what? IAC means that programs can talk to one another. If you had an Excel chart that summarized information in a FileMaker database, FileMaker could update the Excel chart as you changed data in the database, *without* FileMaker having to be open or running. HyperCard's new version 2.1 is designed to serve as a central "control panel" for all of these

activities. Running under HyperCard's control, your Mac could fire up a communications program, download important information from an on-line service, sign off of the service, open a word processor, format the freshly downloaded information and send it out to the world using a modem that transmits faxes. Programs will have to be re-written to take advantage of IAC, so almost no one will be able to use it at first. IAC will be a real "sleeper" that will bring some revolutionary things to the Mac in the future.

Publish and Subscribe: Similar to IAC, Publish and Subscribe allows others access to your documents in a new way. An executive could publish his schedule over a network and his staff could subscribe to it, reading his schedule for the day. Artists could publish works in progress and higher-ups could review the work as it progressed. Published documents can be included in other documents. A company newsletter can contain articles in progress from several users over a network. Published documents update automatically.

Aliases: An alias is a duplicate icon for a file, folder or disk. The alias looks and acts like the original. You double-click on it and the original is opened. Aliases do not contain the information of the original and are very small. Files can act as if they are in two places at once; you can put a copy of a file or application in several places without

> ▓▓▓▓ **Commercial software will crash under the new system for reasons that are no fault of Apple's. Commercial software developers will rush bug fix versions of their own into production.**

using up any extra space on your disk. A great use for aliases will be file cataloging. For example, you can open up your "Disk of the Month" and make an alias for all of the files. Create a folder on your hard disk marked "Disk of the Month" and drag just the aliases into the folder. The total storage space used is minimal, yet you have complete information for all of the files in the disk. Double-clicking on any of the aliases causes the Mac to request the disk that contains the original.

Customizable Apple menu: You will find a new folder in the system folder called "Apple Menu." Anything you put in there

— DA's, applications, folders, or their *aliases* — will show up in the Apple menu.

True Type: True Type gives you fonts that scale cleanly to any size, both on the screen and with any printer. No more jagged letters... if you use True Type fonts. True Type is available separately from System 7. (*Those familiar with Adobe Type Manager will recognize True Type's operating concept. One big difference, though: True Type is free! Ed.*)

File Sharing: You can access other machines over a network, and it will seem just like their hard disk was hooked to your machine (except for reduced access speed). This was possible before, but it required third-party software such as *Tops*. Now it is built into the system.

Virtual Memory: A power-user feature that allows you to use hard disk space as if it were RAM. Now, the amount of RAM you can have will be *virtual*-ly unlimited.

Polish, polish and more polish: System 7 is slick. Every time you turn around there are little enhancements that you have always wanted, or would die for if you had thought of them. "Find File" is fast, powerful and easy to use. The Finder has more improvements than I can list. When you double-click on a Control Panel document it opens the control panel. The System Folder is re-organized to reduce clutter. When you double-click on the system file it opens up, showing you all of the fonts and sounds inside. Select a font and choose "Get Info" and it shows you a window with a sample of the font. The improvements will fill a book. The technical whizzes at Apple have always been masters at creating software that is powerful and easy to use. The good news is: they still are.

Okay, I'll byte... what do I need to run it?

To run the new system, you must have a Mac Plus or later with *at least* 2 megabytes of memory and a hard disk. If you would like to run more than one application at a time you will need more memory than this. Keep in mind that MultiFinder is permanently on in System 7. Personally, I would recommend getting 4 megs of RAM to take full advantage of the new system's abilities. At MacValley, SIMM-help is only a phone

> ▓▓▓▓ **System 7 is slick. Every time you turn around there are little enhancements that you have always wanted, or would die for if you had thought of them.**

call away; dial Lester Mannos and say "Fill 'er Up!"

No, I am not Jeanne Dixon, but I make these predictions based on long experience.

The Four Stages of System 7

The Release

Apple will release the new system surrounded by much hoopla. Users will ooh and aah at what it can do and become rightfully excited about the new system. The chronically whiny will mumble and say, "What's so great about System 7?" (*These are the same people who were heard to say, "System 6? 4.2 was good enough for me!" Ed.*)

The Rumors

Then the rumors will start. "Did you know that System 7 will reformat your hard drive if press Command-Shift-Option-6 while running *PageMaker* 3.0 on a Tuesday?" "It bombs with everything I run." "It locks up whenever I do anything." "It bombs with *Word.*" "System 7 caused this guy's Mac to issue a high-pitched whine. His dog was driven insane and killed him." The rumors will be ominous, vague, general and persistent. Some of them will be true.

The Bug Fixes

Behind the rumors will be actual bugs. No programmer can test under every possible combination, but the general public can. System 7 is a very well tested piece of software and is quite stable, but it *will* have problems. The programmers at Apple will make lists and squash bugs quickly. Commercial software will crash under the new system for reasons that are no fault of Apple's. Commercial software developers will rush bug fix versions of their own into production.

The Resolution

Apple and the commercial software people will go through several rounds of this while ironing everything out. In a few months, things will begin to settle out and we will have some really stable software.

Keeping up with the times

I would now like to call your attention to an area that will be responsible for 95% of the problems people have with the new system: older or outdated software.

When software authors release a program as shareware (try before you buy), very few people pay for it after they try it. As a result of this, a large amount of shareware authors abandon their projects, and are likely to move on to other ventures. Then, there are the people who own commercial software, but never get the upgrades when they're announced. Other people have copies of software that they do not own, and therefore *cannot* upgrade. All of these people have something in common: their software has become "static" and fixed.

The new system makes a lot of changes. *The majority of older stuff will work just fine.* The pyrotechnic nature of System 7 has been overblown, but there are, and will be, those programs that will be left behind. Fixes for commercial programs will come out quickly and be made available to registered users, but if the shareware author has moved on to greener pastures, or you are using a pirated copy of something, you may be out of luck. Every major system release has left a lot of old stuff behind. I am sure that many of you have pulled out some ancient disk only to find that the programs on it do nothing but crash with today's system software. System 7 is no different.

(*And shortly, you'll see programs emerging that require System 7 to run... programs you'll want to use. This is a natural progression and should be welcomed. Ed.*)

Apple has gone to great pains to insure that users know what will and will not work with System 7. A HyperCard stack comes with System 7 that gives recommended versions of every major piece of software on the market today. It will even go through your hard drive, check all of the software for you, and issue a compatibility report. You can review this before you install to see if you might have problems. Programs that are known not to work with System 7 can be put aside, and ones that are "unknown" can be tested one at a time for problems.

If you install System 7 and experience fatal problems, falling back to System 6 is not difficult. Not difficult if you have remembered to backup your hard disk first, that is. This *should* go without saying, but as I've said before, you can't say it enough. Use your backup System 6 to restore from,

and all will be well. Recent information indicates that simply re-installing, by using the installer program, will *not* backwards-convert some of the desk accessories.

I hope that you have seen something in the new system that you simply *must* have. It is a great piece of software, and unless you are one of the chronically whiny, you will love it!

To install or not to install: that is the question

Now that we've covered the in's and out's of the System 7 scene, it's time for some hard and fast recommendations:

Install System 7 Right Away If:
- You are adventurous. God smiles on the brave.
- You have a simple system (This applies if you have up-to-date versions of mainline commercial applications, or could get upgrades if you need them. You do not have a simple system if you have a lot of Control Panel Documents (CDEV's) or Startup Documents (INITs). A lot is more than 10 of either one.)
- You are a fairly sophisticated user who can debug your system if something is going wrong. Chances are good that System 7 will work for you, and you can iron out the glitches that come up.

Do not Install System 7 Right Away if:
- You are under a lot of pressure and have a lot of work to get done. If system failures would absolutely *ruin* your life, then wait.
- You have a lot of Control Panel Documents, Startup Documents or older applications that you cannot upgrade, or if you are not adept at debugging your system.
- Your system is not stable as it is *now.*
- You do not have backups of your data. This is not peculiar to System 7. Those of you running without backups are living on borrowed time. A hard drive is like any other electronic gadget: one day you will turn it on and nothing will happen.

If you fall into the "Do Not Install" category, then you should wait until the "Resolution" phase. Get the latest versions of everything that you need to eventually operate the system successfully, the latest bug fix version of System 7 when it becomes available, and plunge in.

> **I hope that you have seen something in the new system that you simply *must* have. It is a great piece of software, and unless you are one of the chronically whiny, you will love it!**

System 7.0: Myth vs. Fact

Reprinted from the Jan/Feb 1991 issue of the official Apple Computer newsletter for user groups "Quick Connect"

Apple's major enhancement to its System software, System 7.0, will bring exciting new capabilities to Macintosh® computers. Features such as outline fonts, virtual memory, Finder™ 7.0 interface, file sharing and interapplication communication promise to enhance the computing experience of every Macintosh user. As we go to press, System 7.0 has "gone beta," and is in the hands of Apple's 3,000 certified developers. Eagerly awaited by User Groups, System 7.0 has generated much speculation about its capabilities.

We recently asked Paul H. Meijer, System Software Product Manager in Apple USA Product Marketing, to address some of the "myths" he has been hearing about System 7.0, and to give us the "facts" on this forthcoming Apple product. He replied by sending us this article written on a Macintosh IIcx running beta 1 of System 7.0 software.

Myth: I'll need more than 2 megabytes of RAM to "really" run System 7.0.

Fact: Repeat after me: System 7.0 requires 2 megabytes (MB) of RAM and a hard disk. Period. A main reason for the increased RAM size is that MultiFinder® operating system software is always "on" now. A 2MB configuration will permit an 800K application space, perfect for running an application such as HyperCard. A good rule of thumb is to add another megabyte of RAM to whatever RAM configuration you're currently comfortable with using. Current 1MB Macintosh Plus and Macintosh SE users can maintain part of their DRAM investment by keeping two of the 256K DRAM SIMMs already in their machines and adding two new 1MB SIMMs. This solution will give them 2.5MB machines, enough memory to run System 7.0 easily.

Myth: None of my applications will work under System 7.0. To really get all the benefits, I'll have to buy all new applications.

Fact: This isn't true, even if you'll be upgrading from a much older version of system software, such as System 3.2. System 7.0 will have a very high degree of compatibility with existing applications, including 100% compatibility with a "core" set of about 50 applications. Compatibility information will be included with System 7.0 that will tell which applications work and which do not. Generally, if you have the

most current version of a software application, there is an excellent chance that it will work and will take advantage of System 7.0 features, without an upgrade. If you have older versions of applications, you may want to upgrade to the current version. Apple is working very closely with our developers, who are hard at work producing applications that take advantage of all the new System 7.0 features. It is possible that some INITs will cause conflicts, but this is true today as well.

Myth: System 7.0 is only "evolutionary" and not "revolutionary," so there's no reason to upgrade right away.

Fact: System 7.0 incorporates a wealth of new features which will form the basis of innovative applications. New applications will be ready at introduction that use the "Publish and Subscribe" metaphors ("live cut-and-paste") of Interapplication Communication (IAC) to produce better ways of using your Macintosh. With IAC, users can "Publish" any piece of data (text, graphics, sound) from any application to which other applications can then "Subscribe." For example, the chart created in your spreadsheet and pasted to your word processor is automatically updated whenever the data in the chart

■■■■■ Compatibility information will be included with System 7.0 that will tell which applications work and which do not.

changes, whether or not the word processor is open. Sections of text in a master library can be subscribed to, and if the master text changes, all documents utilizing the sections will automatically be updated. System 7.0 will bring so many new capabilities to Macintosh users that we're encouraging all users to upgrade right away. Soon after the introduction, Apple will ship all Macintosh computers with System 7.0 pre-installed on the hard drives.

Myth: System 7.0 will make using the Macintosh a lot more complicated.

Fact: System 7.0 actually makes using the Macintosh easier. There is more user control and consistency built into the Finder. Finder 7.0 is also the first Finder that "finds," and its "Find" command physically opens the folder containing the located file and highlights the file. System 7.0's new "Help" feature will assist novice users in quickly learning Macintosh concepts, and experienced Macintosh users will find the small touches greatly enhance their productivity and overall computing experience.

Myth: Only Macintosh computers with a 68030 microprocessor (IIx, IIcx, IIci, IIfx, IIsi) will run System 7.0. If I'm a Macintosh Plus or Macintosh SE owner, there's no reason for me to upgrade.

Fact: A main benefit of an '030 chip over a 68020 (as found in the Mac® II computer) is a built-in Paged Memory Management Unit (PMMU). A PMMU is required to run Virtual Memory (VM). VM, however, is a small portion of what System 7.0 offers. All Macintosh computers can use TrueType (TM) font technology, Macintosh File Sharing, the new Finder, IAC and AppleEvents (TM) messages. Only the Macintosh Plus, Macintosh Classic®, Macintosh SE, Macintosh LC and the Macintosh Portable computers cannot use VM. The Mac II has a socket for an optional PMMU chip, and once installed, it can use virtual memory, too.

Myth: System 6.0.x users will be incompatible with System 7.0 users.

Fact: System 6.0.x and System 7.0

users can work together easily, and on the same network. System 6.0.x users can log onto System 7.0 machines running Macintosh File Sharing and use shared files from the System 7.0 user. The shared folder or hard drive will appear on the desktop like a regular AppleShare ® network file server volume. Any System 6.0.x user who gets a document from a System 7.0 user with TrueType will have the font scaled to the closest bit map. (This is identical with how it works today between System 6.0.x systems.) Finally, System 6.0.x and System 7.0 users can share the same laser printers. The System 7.0 print drivers are compatible with System 6.0.x, so 6.0.x users need simply to install the print drivers using the disk shipped with System 7.0.

> ■■■■■ **System 6.0.x and System 7.0 users can work together easily, and on the same network.**

Myth: TrueType font technology will render my investment in PostScript or bit-mapped fonts obsolete.

Fact: All your existing fonts will work in the same way they did before. When a document goes to the printer, the LaserWriter printer driver first checks the internal printer fonts for the necessary size. If it doesn't find the size, it then looks for Type 1 PostScript fonts in the System folder. If these are not found, it then looks for the appropriate TrueType font. All fonts will be used in the same manner as before. There will be no need to have multiple files containing the same font besides the one TrueType file. We expect that over time people will use only the TrueType file rather than a combination of bit maps and Type 1 fonts. This approach saves disk space, is less confusing, and produces beautiful on-screen type!

Myth: Installing System 7.0 will be a nightmare for individuals and corporations.

Fact: System 7.0 uses the "one-button" installer, making installation much easier. Also, System 7.0 can be installed across an AppleShare network, so System 6.0.x users can "double-click" the installer on an AppleShare volume, and the software will install over the network onto their machine. There is no physical limit to the number of users who can simultaneously upgrade over the network-the number is limited only by the size of the installed network.

Myth: If I have problems, I'll be all alone with no one to call.

Fact: We'll be working closely with Apple Authorized Resellers and User Groups so they can provide support and can answer adequately any questions you may have. In addition, there will be a great deal of press coverage as well as "How To" books guiding users through System 7.0. On-line services such as AppleLink will also contain 7.0-specific information.

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Membership News

Other prizes and winners were: "I Love My Mac" T-shirt (Nancy Campbell); MouseDoctor Cleaning Kit from American Covers, Inc. (Greg Dick); Two "Brain on Drugs" T-shirts (Helen Lippman and Roy Rothlisberger); *QuarkStyle* from Quark XPress (although Les Mannos had the winning ticket, it belonged to David Thomson); a box of Sony DS color-coded disks (Eleanor Hobbs); and *Findswell* from Working Software (Alice Williams). We offer our thanks to the donors, and our envious "Lucky You's" to the winners.

Arnold Woodworth, the "dean" of **MacAdemy** has a special announcement for the 1- 3 P.M. "featured instructional" class on June 8: The professional musician, Del Blake, will present *Music, Sound, and 7.0*. This seminar will be meaningful to different levels of Mac users. Beginners will get a realistic assessment of entry level possibilities, and Intermediate users get techniques to increase dependability in an increasingly more complex system, while Advanced users

Mr. Wright's Report

If you've got the time, we've got the answers

Good luck with System 7, I know you will enjoy it. You can buy the commercial version for $99 list, which includes manuals, or you can save a bundle and get it from us. MacValley will have it available as soon as Apple releases it to us, and we'll be selling the 8 disk set at the monthly meeting for the usual $3 per disk. For documentation, "The System 7 Book" by Craig Danuloff, published by Ventana Press, is extremely well-written and covers System 7 issues in an organized fashion. We have made a bulk purchase for the group.

With 7, we're all beginners

Those of you who have been to the last few meetings have no doubt noticed the considerable improvement in the sound system. This is thanks to Lars Wood of Lars Wood Audio. Lars brought in a great sound system and let us try it out. When we told him we couldn't live without it, he made us a great deal. Lars does this for a living, so if you need help with live events, sound equipment, or other audio matters, give Lars a call at 805/986-7671. It will be a sound investment of your time.

get an overview with the goal of complete system integration — present and future. Del will have extensive handouts, and everyone will participate in a no-nonsense question and answer session — "The only stupid questions are the ones left unasked," says Del. You aren't required to, but Del suggests that you may want to bring your computer and blank disks if it's convenient to do so. Limited seating is available, so register in advance. Del Blake is currently at work on the *MacWorld Music and Sound Bible* (IDG Pub. Co.) with Christopher Yavelow and our esteemed editor.

As usual, the "dean" will conduct the regular "novice" class from 11 A.M.- 1 P.M. for the benefit of neophytes on the Mac, bringing you up-to-date on the basics. For either class, sign up at the meeting, consult the back page of this newsletter for location and directions, bring your Mac, along with appropriate software, and a couple of blank work disks.

Here's a thought: **The first place to look for information is in the section of the manual where you least expect to find it.**

UnTrueType:

What's *still* wrong with Apple's font menu

By Jim Alley

f there's any big disappointment connected with Apple's release of TrueType, it is that Apple has apparently taken no steps to correct its archaic Font and Style menus (although we may hope that we are proven wrong with the final release of System 7.0).

In the early days of the Macintosh, all fonts came in four stylistic variations — plain, italic, bold, and bold-italic. You picked the font from the Font menu and chose between the four variations under the Style menu. It was easy and intuitive, like everything was supposed to be on the Mac.

Things have changed now, but Apple has not done anything to keep up. Font families are no longer limited to four variations. For instance, Zapf Chancery has only a single style. Kaufmann has two variations. Helvetica Compressed has three. Lithos has five, and so forth, all the way up to Adobe's Futura family, which has twelve style variations! (And that's not counting the additional eight of Futura Condensed.) Apple's Font and Style menu simply cannot cope with these in any logical fashion. We've had to take measures on our own, with help from third parties. Adobe created some of the mess with their coded font names, such as BI Avant Garde Bold Italic, or CLBI Helvetica Condensed Black Oblique. Then Adobe came right back and sold us a solution in the form of *Adobe Type Reunion.* (Wheels within wheels.)

Let's say you've harmonized your fonts in order to avoid the China syndrome. So far, so good. Perhaps you used Adobe Type Reunion (ATR) to group all of the faces in a family together in a pop-out submenu — no more looking under the B's for Helvetica Bold. And no more trying to remember that to get Helvetica Black, you must choose Helvetica Light from the Font menu, and then choose Bold from the Style menu. Yikes! Memorizing non-intuitive procedures like that is the DOS way of doing things, not the Mac way.

At any rate, ATR's font submenus kept things rational, and we've accepted it, despite minor conflicts.

Well, unfortunately, TrueType has thrown a small monkey wrench into your carefully-tailored system. Apple has missed the boat again; the TrueType Helvetica will not pop out an italic choice under ATR. (Yes, Apple, I understand that Helvetica does not have a true italic style, but rather an oblique variation, but TrueType hides it from me anyway — a giant step backward.)

There must be a better way. Something like ATR that works at the system level, without conflicts. Or perhaps graying out style variations that will not work. It should be made *impossible* to specify variations, such as Zapf Chancery bold-italic, that will not print.

Please, Apple, if you won't step in and clear things up, at least don't mess them up more. This new twist will be confusing to beginners and irritating to design professionals. Nobody gains (except, maybe, the third-parties that clean up things). Are you listening, Apple?

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Perhaps graying out style variations that will not work would be a better way. It should be made impossible to specify variations, such as Zapf Chancery bold-italic, that will not print

a *a* **a** ***a***

Times   Helvetica

Most fonts have a true italic face, which is designed separately by the type designer. These faces are distinct — many of the characters have a shape quite different from their Roman (plain) counterpart. Note the differences in the Times characters above. The normal "a" is "two-story" as compared to the italic "single-story."

Some faces, however, do not have a separately designed italic face. Instead, they have an "oblique" face, in which the characters merely lean to the right. The Helvetica face is of this type. Apple's TrueType simply uses the Mac to artificially generate Helvetica Oblique.